

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 stand in the present application, claims 1 and 6 having been amended. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 2-5 and 10-25, but respectfully requested submits that in view of the above amendments and the following remarks all of claims 1-25 are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the phrase "or the like." As noted above, Applicant has amended claim 6 in order to correct the deficiency noted by the Examiner and accordingly the claim as amended is believed to overcome the § 112, second paragraph, rejection.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 1 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Mori et al. In view of the above-described claim amendments to claim 1, claim 1 and its dependent claims 6-9 are believed to patentably define over the cited reference, as will be described in greater detail below.

As noted above, Applicant has amended claim 1 to more clearly recite that at least one of the upper and lower shading areas having sloped portions to form a convex shape having a bulging portion with the bulging portion of the convex shape protruding towards and being directly opposite to a gate electrode of the switching element. The newly cited Mori et al. reference at Figure 4 shows a convex shading layer CVL2 but has the bulge protruding away from the gate electrode of the switching element in the opposite direction as compared to Applicant's invention, as now more clearly recited in amended claim 1.

The configuration of the shading layer in Applicant's invention is an important feature that provides for specific reflection angles as shown, for example, in present Figure 2. Since the cited reference does not teach or suggest Applicant's invention as now more clearly recited in amended claim 1, claim 1 and its respective dependent claims are believed to patentably define thereover.

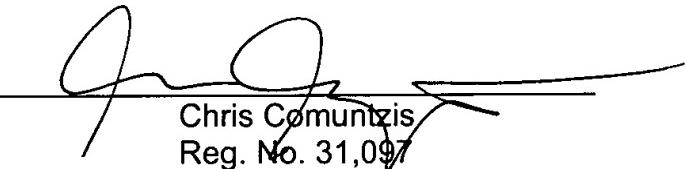
Therefore, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all of claims 1-25, standing in the application, be allowed and that the case be passed to issue. If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a supplemental response or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone exchange indicated below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claim(s) by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Thrice Amended) An active matrix liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal cell, a switching element arranged in matrix, and shading layers mounted both on the upper side and the lower side of said switching element; wherein at least one of the upper and lower shading layers having sloped portions to form a convex shape having a bulging portion with [an outermost portion] the bulging portion of said convex shape protruding towards and being directly opposite to a gate electrode of said switching element.

6. (Twice Amended) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein

said upper shading layer and said lower shading layer are each formed of one of the following: a metal film such as [(]Al, Ta, Ti, W, Mo, Cr, Ni[)]; a single layered film such as [made of polysilicon and the like,] AlSi, MoSi₂, TaSi₂, WSi₂, CoSi₂, NiSi₂, PtSi, Pd₂S, HfN, ZrN, TiN, TaN, NbN, TiC, TaC or TiB₂[,]; or of a structure formed by laminating said films.

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